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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 18, 2002

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

*JoAnn Evangelista*  
JoAnn Evangelista

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

JEFFREY H. BURBANK et al.

Application No.: 09/431,008

Filed: November 1, 1999

For: VALVE PORT AND METHOD  
FOR VASCULAR ACCESS

Examiner: THANG, LOAN H

Art Unit: 3763

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 22, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A complete set of pending claims is provided for your convenience in Appendix A attached hereto.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please rewrite the first paragraph on page 1, lines 3-6, of the Specification as follows:

The present application is a continuation-in-part of non-provisional Application Serial No. 08/942,990, filed on October 2, 1997, (now U.S. Patent No. 6,007,516, issued December 28, 1999), which claimed the benefit of provisional Application Serial No. 60/036,124, filed on January 21, 1997, the full disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

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